



Director of
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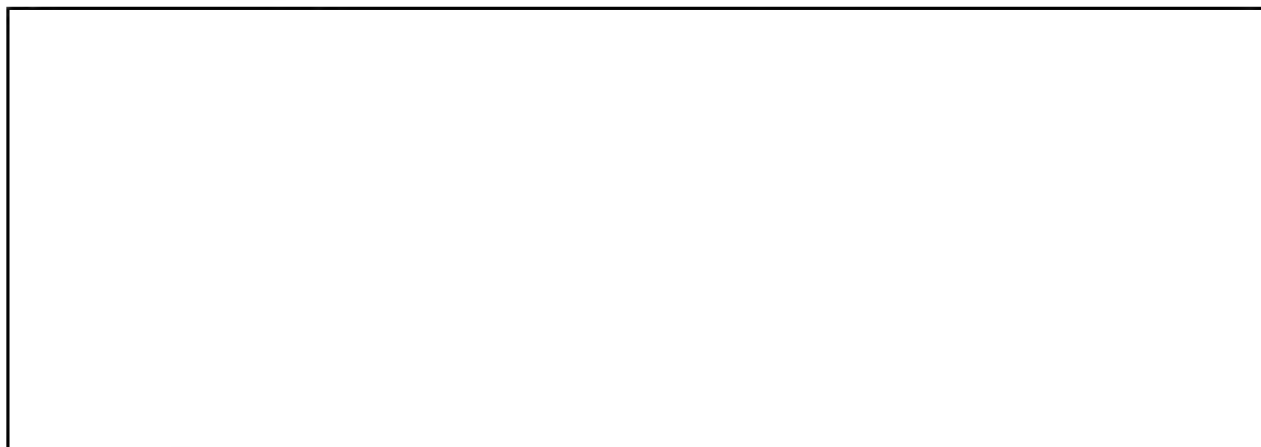
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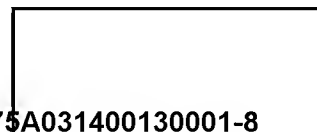


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Overnight Reports 11

The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.

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EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY: Possible Harassment

The East Germans possibly will slow traffic on access routes to West Berlin to demonstrate their displeasure over West Berliners being included in the European Parliament to be elected early next month. The USSR, however, would approve only temporary, limited East German measures designed to underscore East German and Soviet disapproval because it has more important interests, including the forthcoming summit.

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East Germany has long taken the position that West Berlin is a separate political entity from West Germany and has bitterly opposed any actions that imply otherwise.

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Aside from generally impeding access to West Berlin, East Germany could ban travel by West Berliners elected to the European Parliament on the surface access routes. The East Germans in the past have stopped West German officials from using the surface access routes to underscore their displeasure about West Germany increasing its political ties with West Berlin. The East Germans could also further limit one-day visits that West Berliners currently are allowed to East Berlin and increase currency exchange requirements for West Germans traveling in East Germany.

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East Germany probably would prefer severe measures to dramatize its position, but it is doubtful that the USSR will let the East Germans upset East-West relations at a time when the SALT II treaty is ready for signature and faces an uncertain fate in the US Senate. Even small infringements on travel to and from West Berlin, however, would violate the Four-Power Agreement on Berlin and probably lead the West Germans to request an Allied protest.

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

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India

According to a Western news agency report, party colleagues of former Prime Minister Gandhi said in New Delhi yesterday that she is expected to file nomination papers soon to run in a parliamentary by-election on 17 June in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. She was elected to a seat in the lower house of the Indian parliament last November but was expelled a month later for alleged corrupt practices. Her supporters are planning to hold a large public rally in New Delhi tomorrow on her behalf.

COMMENT: Gandhi probably would run only if she felt assured of an easy victory. She reportedly had been inclined to run next fall for her former seat from the state of Karnataka adjacent to Tamil Nadu. It is not clear whether her chances for retaining a seat in parliament once elected have improved.

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Egypt

Assessing the Egyptian mood in a lengthy cable, US Ambassador Eilts reports that among many Egyptian intellectuals and others who think about foreign affairs, the "inundating wave" of Arab sanctions against Egypt has generated some second thoughts about the peace treaty with Israel. The Egyptian masses are still overwhelmingly behind President Sadat and the treaty, but support from the elite is beginning to erode. Those Egyptians think in terms of Cairo having lost a leadership role in the Arab world and are "deeply disturbed" about what is happening around them. Growing Egyptian misgivings have not produced any significant attacks on US policy so far; most interlocutors of the Embassy, Eilts noted, still accept that the US, especially President Carter, genuinely is seeking a just, durable peace. [REDACTED]

China

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Analyzing China's leadership meetings of the past two months, the US Embassy in Beijing reports that the maneuvering seems to have preserved rivalries intact and only papered over many of the controversies within the leadership. Diplomats in Beijing generally believe that Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping was taken down a few notches at the meetings--a view which seems to be supported by most outward signs--and that important voices other than those of Deng and Chairman Hua Guofeng are making themselves heard. The Embassy notes, however, that Deng continues to impress foreign visitors with his willingness to make decisions without consulting others in the leadership. [REDACTED]


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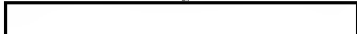
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Canada

The US Embassy in Ottawa yesterday reported that the two-hour, nationally televised debate among party leaders the preceding evening--the only one before the general election a week from today--probably produced "a small net plus" for opposition Progressive Conservative Joe Clark, the principal rival of Liberal Prime Minister Trudeau. No new issues were introduced, and Trudeau, an acknowledged master of such face-to-face sparring, failed to land any "mortal wounds" on Clark in the opinion of the Embassy. Even Clark's campaign workers, the Embassy noted, had feared he would disgrace the party in some irredeemable fashion during the debate and thereby throw away a possible election victory. The third debater, New Democratic Party leader Ed Broadbent, declined to say what his party would do should neither of the leading parties gain a majority of the seats, a distinct possibility in what appears to be a close contest. 

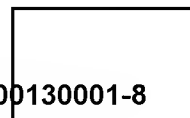
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China - Western Europe

The US Embassy in Beijing has learned from reliable sources in the French and West German Embassies there that Chinese officials, around 1 May, suggested a September-October time frame for visits to their countries by Chairman Hua Guofeng. In at least the French case, the Chinese were seeking a specific response regarding the schedule for his visit. 

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Japan - Turkey - West Germany

Turkish Foreign Minister Okcun begins a five-day visit to Tokyo today for talks on Japanese cooperation in alleviating Turkey's economic problems. Walter Kiep, West German Chancellor Schmidt's special envoy in seeking multilateral aid for Turkey, met with Prime Minister Ohira and Foreign Minister Sonoda yesterday and reportedly secured a pledge of Japanese assistance "to the maximum possible extent." Kiep is meeting with Okcun's deputy today in Tokyo before flying to Washington for two days of talks beginning Thursday.

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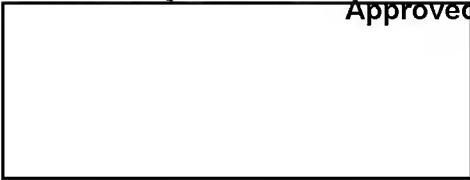
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